

35A-11-101. Title.

This chapter is known as the "Women in the Economy Commission Act."

Enacted by Chapter 127, 2014 General Session

35A-11-102. Definitions.

As used in this chapter:

(1) "Commission" means the Women in the Economy Commission created in Section 35A-11-201.

(2) "State institution of higher education" is as defined in Section 53B-3-102.

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35A-11-201. Women in the Economy Commission created.

(1) There is created within the department a commission known as the "Women in the Economy Commission."

(2) The commission shall consist of 11 members as follows:

(a) one senator appointed by the president of the Senate;

(b) one senator appointed by the minority leader of the Senate;

(c) one representative appointed by the speaker of the House of Representatives;

(d) one representative appointed by the minority leader of the House of Representatives;

(e) the executive director of the department, or the executive director's designee; and

(f) six members appointed by the governor as follows:

(i) a representative of a business with fewer than 50 employees that has been awarded for work flexibility or work-life balance;

(ii) a representative of a business with 50 or more employees, but fewer than 500 employees, that has been awarded for work flexibility or work-life balance;

(iii) a representative of a business with 500 or more employees that has been awarded for work flexibility or work-life balance;

(iv) an individual who has experience in demographic work and is employed by a state institution of higher education;

(v) one individual from a nonprofit organization that addresses issues related to domestic violence; and

(vi) one individual with managerial experience with organized labor.

(3) (a) When a vacancy occurs in a position appointed by the governor under Subsection (2)(f), the governor shall appoint a person to fill the vacancy.

(b) Members appointed under Subsection (2)(f) may be removed by the governor for cause.

(c) A member appointed under Subsection (2)(f) shall be removed from the commission and replaced by the governor if the member is absent for three consecutive meetings of the commission without being excused by the chair of the commission.

(d) A member serves until the member's successor is appointed and qualified.

(4) In appointing the members under Subsection (2)(f), the governor shall:

- (a) take into account the geographical makeup of the commission; and
 - (b) strive to appoint members who are knowledgeable or have an interest in issues related to women in the economy.
- (5) (a) The commission shall select two members to serve as cochairs, one of which shall be a legislator.
- (b) Subject to the other provisions of this Subsection (5), the cochairs are responsible for the call and conduct of meetings.
- (c) The cochairs shall call and hold meetings of the commission at least every two months.
- (d) One of the bimonthly meetings described in Subsection (5)(c) shall be held while the Legislature is convened in its annual general session.
- (e) One or more additional meetings may be called upon request by a majority of the commission's members.
- (6) (a) A majority of the members of the commission constitutes a quorum.
- (b) The action of a majority of a quorum constitutes the action of the commission.
- (7) (a) A member of the commission described in Subsection (2)(e) or (f) may not receive compensation or benefits for the member's service, but may receive per diem and travel expenses in accordance with:
- (i) Section 63A-3-106;
 - (ii) Section 63A-3-107; and
 - (iii) rules made by the Division of Finance pursuant to Sections 63A-3-106 and 63A-3-107.
- (b) Compensation and expenses of a member who is a legislator are governed by Section 36-2-2 and Legislative Joint Rules, Title 5, Legislative Compensation and Expenses.
- (8) The department shall provide staff support to the commission.

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35A-11-202. Purpose -- Powers and duties of the commission.

- (1) The commission's purpose is to:
- (a) increase public and government understanding of the current and future impact and needs of the state's women in the economy and how those needs may be most effectively and efficiently met;
 - (b) identify and recommend implementation of specific policies, procedures, and programs to respond to the rights, needs, and impact of women in the economy; and
 - (c) facilitate coordination of the functions of public and private entities concerned with women in the economy.
- (2) The commission shall:
- (a) facilitate the communication and coordination of public and private entities that provide services to women or protect the rights of women;
 - (b) study, evaluate, and report on the status and effectiveness of policies, procedures, and programs that provide services to women or protect the rights of women;
 - (c) study and evaluate the policies, procedures, and programs implemented by

other states that address the needs of women in the economy or protect the rights of women;

(d) facilitate and conduct the research and study of issues related to women in the economy;

(e) provide a forum for public comment on issues related to women in the economy;

(f) provide public information on women in the economy and the services available to women; and

(g) encourage state and local governments to analyze, plan, and prepare for the impact of women in the economy on services and operations.

(3) To accomplish its duties, the commission may:

(a) request and receive from a state or local government agency or institution summary information relating to women in the economy, including:

(i) reports;

(ii) audits;

(iii) projections; and

(iv) statistics;

(b) apply for and accept grants or donations for uses consistent with the duties of the commission from public or private sources; and

(c) appoint one or more special committees to advise and assist the commission.

(4) Money received under Subsection (3)(b) shall be:

(a) accounted for and expended in compliance with the requirements of federal and state law; and

(b) continuously available to the commission to carry out the commission's duties.

(5) (a) A member of a special committee described in Subsection (3)(c):

(i) shall be appointed by the commission;

(ii) may be:

(A) a member of the commission; or

(B) an individual from the private or public sector; and

(iii) notwithstanding Section 35A-11-201, may not receive reimbursement or pay for any work done in relation to the special committee.

(b) A special committee described in Subsection (3)(c) shall report to the commission on the progress of the special committee.

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35A-11-203. Annual report.

(1) The commission shall annually prepare and publish a report directed to the:

(a) governor;

(b) Education Interim Committee;

(c) Economic Development and Workforce Services Interim Committee;

(d) Executive Appropriations Committee;

(e) Legislative Management Committee;

(f) Business, Economic Development, and Labor Appropriations Subcommittee;

and

(g) State Council on Workforce Services.

(2) The report described in Subsection (1) shall:

(a) describe how the commission fulfilled its statutory purposes and duties during the year; and

(b) contain recommendations on how the state should act to address issues relating to women in the economy.

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